

CLAIMS

1 -3.(cancelled)

4. (Previously submitted) The cartridge of claim 9, further characterised in that said rectangular vapor exit aperture is adapted for receiving a removable lid which may open said rectangular vapor aperture.

5. (Previously submitted) The cartridge of claim 10, further including a removable lid which may open said rectangular vapor exit aperture.

6-8.(cancelled)

9.(Previously submitted) A self regulating fuel cartridge for a domestic fireplace comprising:
an elongate bottom wall;
a left-side wall;
a right-side wall;
an elongate front wall, and;
an elongate back wall, said walls being joined so as to define an elongate, substantially rectangular box, said substantially rectangular box having a width approximately equal to a length of one of either the front wall or the back wall, and having a depth approximately equal to one of either the left side wall or the right side wall, the bottom, right-side, left -side, front and back walls defining therebetween a fuel-receiving chamber filled with a gel fuel in intimate contact with at least the bottom, front and back walls, said gel fuel emitting flammable vapors for combustion, said fuel cartridge further comprising a noncombustible, flat top wall, said top wall being rigidly joined to the left, right, front and back walls and extending parallel to the bottom wall to enclose therebetween said fuel-receiving chamber, and said top wall being imperforate except for at least one elongate, rectangular vapor exit aperture extending longitudinally therethrough and being of predetermined, constant size;

said vapor exit aperture communicating with said fuel receiving chamber and permitting the exit of said flammable vapors from said fuel receiving chamber through said rectangular vapor exit aperture;

said top wall forming noncombustible vapor restrictors which extend, rigidly, from each of the front, back, left and right walls to said rectangular vapor exit aperture, the cartridge being self-regulating by said vapor restrictors so that a visible, elongate, rectangular flame pattern of predetermined size and shape corresponding to a size and shape of said at least one exit aperture is produced throughout combustion.

10. (Previously submitted) A self regulating fuel cartridge for a domestic fireplace comprising:

a noncombustible housing having an elongate, rectangular bottom wall and an elongate, rectangular front wall, an elongate, rectangular back wall and elongate, opposite side walls, upstanding to a common height from the bottom wall to provide an elongate, imperforate, box-like, fuel receiving chamber, open at a top, and a flat top wall rigidly joined to the front, back and side walls to extend longitudinally across the chamber top, and a gel fuel which emits flammable vapors for combustion filling the chamber in intimate contact with the bottom, front and back walls, the top wall defining at least one elongate, rectangular vapor exit aperture of predetermined constant size extending longitudinally centrally along the chamber and surrounded by an imperforate vapor restrictor so that said at least one vapor exit aperture communicates with said fuel receiving chamber and permits exit of said flammable vapors from said fuel receiving chamber through said rectangular vapor exit aperture, the cartridge being self-regulating by said vapor restrictors so that a visible, elongate, rectangular flame pattern of predetermined size and shape corresponding to a size and shape of said at least one exit aperture is produced throughout combustion.

11. (Currently amended) A self regulating fuel cartridge for a domestic fireplace comprising:

a noncombustible, one piece housing having an elongate, rectangular bottom wall and an elongate, rectangular front wall, an elongate, rectangular back wall and elongate,

opposite side walls, upstanding to a common height from the bottom wall to provide an elongate, imperforate, box-like, fuel receiving chamber, open at a top, and a flat top wall joined to the front, back and side walls to extend longitudinally across the chamber top, and a gel fuel which emits flammable vapors for combustion filling the chamber in intimate contact with the bottom, front and back walls, the top wall defining at least one vapor exit aperture of predetermined, constant, elongate, rectangular shape and size, extending longitudinally centrally along the chamber and surrounded by an imperforate vapor restrictor to provide an elongate, imperforate, box-like, fuel receiving chamber, only open at a top, and a gel fuel which emits flammable vapors for combustion filling the chamber in intimate contact with the bottom, front and back walls so that said at least one least one vapor exit aperture communicates with said fuel receiving chamber and permits exit of said flammable vapors from said fuel receiving chamber only through said at least one rectangular vapor exit aperture, the cartridge being self-regulating by said vapor restrictors so that a visible, elongate, rectangular flame pattern of predetermined size and shape corresponding to a size and shape of said at least one exit aperture is produced throughout combustion.

12 (previously submitted) A self regulating fuel cartridge for a domestic fireplace according to claim 9 wherein an area of the vapor restrictor is at least as large as an area of the vapor exit aperture.

13 (previously submitted) A self regulating fuel cartridge for a domestic fireplace according to claim 10 wherein an area of the vapor restrictor is at least as large as an area of the vapor exit aperture.

14 (previously submitted) A self regulating fuel cartridge for a domestic fireplace according to claim 11 wherein an area of the vapor restrictor is at least as large as an area of the vapor exit aperture.

15 (New) A self regulating fuel cartridge for a domestic fireplace according to

claim 11 wherein the housing is thin metal foil

16 (New) A self regulating fuel cartridge for a domestic fireplace according to claim 14 wherein the housing is thin metal foil